

**MINUTES OF THE  
TRANSPORTATION, ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY & NATIONAL GUARD  
APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE**

**Room 25, House Office Building, State Capitol Complex**

**Monday, February 9, 2009**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Sen. Kevin T. Van Tassell, Co-Chair  
Rep. Wayne Harper, Co-Chair  
Sen. Scott K. Jenkins  
Sen. Mark B. Madsen  
Sen. Luz Robles  
Rep. Rebecca P. Edwards  
Rep. Neil Hansen  
Rep. Neal B. Hendrickson  
Rep. Don L. Ipson  
Rep. Patrick Painter  
Rep. F. Jay Seegmiller  
Rep. Kenneth Sumsion  
Rep. Carl Wimmer

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Sen. Peter C. Knudson

**STAFF PRESENT:** Mark C. Bleazard, Fiscal Analyst  
Rosemary Young, Committee Secretary

**Note:** A list of visitors and copy of handouts are filed with committee minutes.

Sen. Van Tassell called the meeting to order at 2:13 p.m.

**MOTION:** Rep. Hendrickson moved to approve the minutes of the February 5, 2009 meeting. The motion passed unanimously with Sen. Madsen, Sen. Robles, Rep. Edwards, Rep. Painter, and Rep. Wimmer absent for the vote.

**National Guard**

General Brian Tarbet, Adjutant General of the National Guard, distributed a handout and reminded the committee that the budget cuts will primarily defer armory maintenance and that each state dollar lost results in three federal dollars lost. Rather than wait until the end of the fiscal year, they would make workforce reductions soon amounting to four FTEs. The reduction in IT would result in the Guard replacing computers as they go down rather than on a preplanned schedule. Supplemental requests begin with \$500,00 in tuition assistance, needed to maintain unit strength and to meet commitments made to guardsmen now serving or in training. The Infrastructure Operation and Maintenance Funding request is for \$291,100 for the North Salt

supplemental increase request in utility funding for FY09 is \$116,700. They request an increase in on-going fund for utilities in FY2010 of \$146,000. The General reminded the committee that many of the armories are old. For example the Manti armory is 82 years old. The Guard also requests some "intent" language. Todd Valline, Resource Manager National Guard, answered questions about tuition assistance funding.

Mark Bleazard, Fiscal Analyst, reviewed the National Guard budget brief and the recommended base budget for FY 2010 at \$31,630,400 for two programs: \$1,245,900 for Administration of which \$588,100 is for tuition assistance, and \$30,384,500 for Armory Maintenance. Federal funds are expected to be \$26,332,900 and the state portion is \$5,195,000 from General Fund. Dedicated credits of \$30,000 are anticipated from the leasing of armories. The Analyst recommends that the committee consider funding of \$500,000 one-time from the General Fund for continued tuition assistance. The Analyst recommends that the committee consider funding \$146,800 from the General Fund and \$229,700 from Federal Funds in FY 2009 and FY 2010 to pay for utility increases at National Guard facilities. The Analyst recommends that the committee consider appropriating from the General Fund \$291,100 for the Salt Lake Readiness Center to cover: \$138,200 for utilities, \$25,900 for maintenance and janitorial supplies, \$5,500 for liability and property insurance, and \$94,000 for two FTEs for janitorial service and maintenance.

## **Veterans' Affairs**

Dennis McFall, Deputy Director of the Department of Veterans' Affairs, thanked the committee for their support. Their budget has three areas: the Veterans' Nursing Home, Veterans' Cemetery, and Administration which primarily covers outreach programs. Operations expenses of the nursing home are passed through in a per diem program where the VA pays half and the veteran pays half. The Department plans to use more voluntary help in the outreach program and ask their contractors to do more without more pay.

The FY 2010 budget recommendation for this department is \$963,800, \$777,000 from the General Fund and \$186,800 from dedicated credits, divided as follows: \$511,800 for Administration; \$317,000 for the Veterans' Cemetery, and \$135,000 from the General Fund for the Veterans' Nursing Home. Veterans' Affairs has requested one-time funding of \$527,000 from the General Fund for startup costs for the 120 bed skilled nursing facility scheduled for completion in November. \$27,000 is for state, federal, and Medicaid surveys, certifications, licensure, inspection fees, office equipment and data processing equipment. The \$500,000 request is for a two months per diem time lag from the federal government. The Analyst recommends that the committee consider funding \$482,000 from the General Fund one-time for opening expenses and \$135,000 from the General Fund ongoing for a full-time state employee to oversee operations of the Northern Utah Veterans' Nursing Home as mandated by the Federal

November. Deputy Director McFall reported on the progress of the construction of the Northern Utah Nursing Home which is expected to be on time and within budget. The Veterans' Affairs fees have not changed and are as follows:

Veterans' Burial Fee	300.00
Spouse/Dependent Burial Fee	400.00
Saturday Burial Fee	500.00
Lawn Vases	60,00
Disinterment Single Depth	600,00
Disinterment Double Depth	900,00
Rental of Chapel	100,00

The fees are estimated to net \$107,000 in Dedicated Credits.

The Analyst reported that other appropriations committees are dealing with the problems of the opening of new facilities for which operating funds are not available.

### **Department of Environmental Quality**

Bill Sinclair, Acting Executive Director of DEQ, referred the committee to the fee schedule found as Appendix A. They are asking for an increase in fees in four areas. The first is a per hour fee for scientists and engineers which has not been raised since 2002. They are requesting that those fees be raised from \$70 to \$90 per hour. The second and third are Operator certification examinations in the Divisions of Water Quality and Drinking Water which are being increased on the national testing level. The fourth increase has to do with the Environmental Quality Restricted Account. Two fees are requested to be raised: one on generators that send radioactive waste into the state and secondly uranium mill operators within the state. The Analyst responded that the increase in fees is reasonable and that DEQ is required to hold public hearings as to these increases. The increases would result in additional revenue of approximately \$900,000. Craig Silotti, Director of the Office of Support Services, responded to questions as to how some of these increases would apply.

Teresa Garrett, Director of Epidemiology and Laboratory Services of the Department of Health, distributed a handout and discussed the work of the Division, giving as an example their involvement in dealing with the cryptosporidium outbreak in public swimming pools recently. Attention was focused on the use of the laboratory, specifically that the testing for DEQ is about 25% of the use and 28% of the budget. Patrick Luedtke, Frazer Laboratory Director, reported that newborn screening amounts to far the largest number of tests done in the lab, but the tests are simple as compared to other microbiology work.

**Department of Transportation**

Carlos Bracerias, Deputy Director of UDOT, distributed a handout which details the prioritization process for the Transportation Investment Fund done in conjunction with the Transportation Commission and is the first phase of a long range plan. Ahmad Jaber, Systems Planning and Programming Director, discussed some of the criteria used in the prioritization and pointed out the need to match the project to the funding source. The total project cost estimate for widening existing facilities is \$4.366 billion with \$3.168 billion additional funds needed.

The committee members were made aware that they have the opportunity through their votes at the next meeting to make a recommendation for funding or to put a project on the list to be funded.

**MOTION:** Rep. Hendrickson moved to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously with Sen. Jenkins, Rep. Ipson, and Rep. Painter absent for the vote.

Sen. Van Tassell adjourned the meeting at 3:33 p.m.

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Rep. Wayne Harper, Co-Chair

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Sen. Kevin T. Van Tassell, Co-Chair